

REMARKS

Claims 12 and 14 have been objected to due to informalities. Claims 12 and 14 have been amended accordingly.

Claims 11-14 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Haavisto in view of Shimada. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner cites Haavisto as disclosing the claimed invention except for “a recognition probability...or the further acoustic object is provided by a sequence of entries in a storage device of the device.” However, the Examiner cites Shamida as disclosing this feature. Specifically, the Examiner stats that “Shimada discloses a voice recognition dialing unit where if an utterance is misrecognized the user can call the next lower candidate [i.e., the next highest probability] by entering a voice command “NEXT ONE” (col. 4, line 65 through col. 5, line 5).” The claimed invention (as amended), on the other hand, requires “a recognition probability of the at least one further acoustic object is less than the recognition probability of the previously output acoustic object, but greater than the recognition probability of other acoustic objects.” This is not disclosed by either Haavisto or Shimada. That is, Shimada simply discloses choosing the next candidate in an predetermined order, whereas the claimed invention selects the “candidate” based on a probability (as defined).

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket

no.449122005700. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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